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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

022878 7590 03/09/2004

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION, LEGAL
DEPT.
P.O. BOX 7599
M/S DL429
LOVELAND, CO 80537-0599

EXAMINER	
DI GRAZIO, JEANNE A	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2871	
DATE MAILED: 03/09/2004	

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/842,100	04/25/2001	Douglas Sojourner	10991096-1	6956

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING LIQUID CRYSTAL MICRO DISPLAYS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1330	\$300	\$1630	06/09/2004

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHT. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THE STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (O AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail

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Commissioner for Patents
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 4 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Legibly mark-up with any corrections or use Block 1)

022878 7590 03/09/2004

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Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompany papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(D)

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nonprovisional	NO	\$1330	\$300	\$1630	06/09/2004

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
DI GRAZIO, JEANNE A	2871	349-190000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

"Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an assignment has been previously submitted to the USPTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent); individual corporation or other private group entity government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

4b. Payment of Fee(s):

Issue Fee
 Publication Fee
 Advance Order - # of Copies _____

A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment. Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

Director for Patents is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

(Authorized Signature)	(Date)
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NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION, LEGAL DEPT. P.O. BOX 7599 M/S DL429 LOVELAND, CO 80537-0599				DI GRAZIO, JEANNE A
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		2871		
DATE MAILED: 03/09/2004				

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 80 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 80 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office Patent Legal Administration at (703) 305-1383. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/842,100	SOJOURNER ET AL.	
	Examiner Jeanne A. Di Grazio	Art Unit 2871	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment of November 12, 2003.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. The drawings filed on 25 April 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-18 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 1, the subject matter of claim 1 is directed to a relatively new technology.

The new technology to which claim 1 is directed is that of a method of manufacturing liquid crystal micro displays ("lcmds"). Relevant prior art of record did not disclose, alone or in combination, a method of manufacturing a plurality of liquid crystal micro displays comprising the steps of: creating a plurality of holes in a substrate where the holes extend into each liquid crystal micro display followed by liquid crystal flowing through the plurality of holes to fill each liquid crystal micro display then sealing the plurality of holes.

The above method steps are novel in that they result in the drilling, filling and sealing simultaneously of several liquid crystal micro display units and as such the method reduces cost while increasing yield.

The closest prior art of record is United States Patent 6,562,640 B1 issued to Tseng et al. on May 13, 2003 with a filing date of August 23, 2000. Tseng is directed to a method of manufacturing liquid crystal micro displays; however, Tseng is not available as prior art against the claims of Applicant's invention. Tseng is not available as prior art against the claims of Applicant's invention because Applicant has successfully provided a declaration of the joint inventors pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.131, attesting that the joint inventors had completed the invention prior to the earliest effective priority date (i.e., August 23, 2000) of the Tseng patent. Upon review of the Rule 131 Affidavit by the instant Examiner and a Primary Examiner

in Art Unit 2871, the Affidavit was found to be sufficient to disqualify the Tseng patent as prior art.

As to claims 2-8, they are directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 1 with allowable subject matter above.

As to claim 9, the subject matter of claim 9 is directed to a relatively new technology. The new technology to which claim 9 is directed is that of a method of manufacturing liquid crystal micro displays (“lcmds”). Relevant prior art of record did not disclose, alone or in combination, a method of manufacturing a plurality of liquid crystal micro displays comprising the steps of: testing a plurality of liquid crystal micro displays while they are still connected to each other and separating the displays from each other after testing.

The above method steps are novel in that the liquid crystal micro displays are first tested and then singulated after they are sealed. Usually, displays are first tested, singulated, and then sealed. Applicant’s above method steps prevent contamination to the displays that have passed testing.

The closest prior art of record is United States Patent 6,562,640 B1 issued to Tseng et al. on May 13, 2003 with a filing date of August 23, 2000. Tseng is directed to a method of manufacturing liquid crystal micro displays; however, Tseng is not available as prior art against the claims of Applicant’s invention. Tseng is not available as prior art against the claims of Applicant’s invention because Applicant has successfully provided a declaration of the joint inventors pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.131, attesting that the joint inventors had completed the invention prior to the earliest effective priority date (i.e., August 23, 2000) of the Tseng patent. Upon review of the Rule 131 Affidavit by the instant Examiner and a Primary Examiner

Art Unit: 2871

in Art Unit 2871, the Affidavit was found to be sufficient to disqualify the Tseng patent as prior art.

As to claims 10-13, they are directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 9 with allowable subject matter above.

As to claim 14, the subject matter of claim 14 is directed to a relatively new technology. The new technology to which claim 14 is directed is that of a liquid crystal micro display (“lcmd”) assembly. Relevant prior art of record did not disclose, alone or in combination, a liquid crystal micro display assembly wherein an assembly is derived from the above claimed method steps.

As previously noted, the Tseng patent is not available as prior art against the claims of Applicant’s invention.

Other relevant prior art of record, United States Patent 6,555,408 B1 issued to Jacobsen et al. and United States Patent 6,177,288 B1 issued to Takiar do not disclose alone or in combination Applicant’s claimed method steps and assembly structure.

As to claims 15-18, they are directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 14 with allowable subject matter above.

The Examiner notes a possible interference issue with Tseng (US 6,562,640 B1).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeanne A. Di Grazio whose telephone number is (571)272-2289. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim, can be reached on (571)272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jeanne Andrea Di Grazio

Robert Kim, SPE

Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2871


ROBERT W. KIM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNICAL CENTER 2800